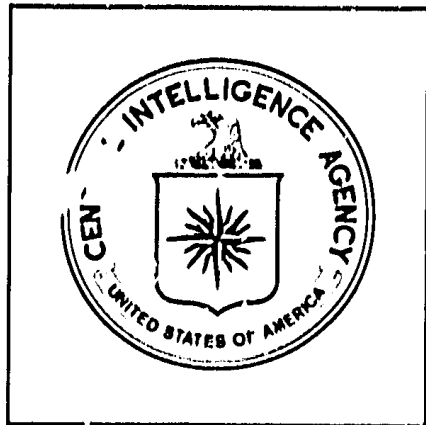


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STAFF NOTES:

Soviet Union Eastern Europe

State Dept. review completed

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SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the USSR - Eastern Europe Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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Strategic Arms Limitation Talks

The Strategic Arms Limitations Talks will resume in Geneva on Friday to hammer out the details of the understandings reached at Vladivostok. In the wake of the recent US-Soviet trade setback, progress will be watched closely around the world as a measure of Moscow's continuing commitment to detente. The Soviets, well aware of this linkage, are publicly touting the importance of cooperation on arms control by the super powers. Nevertheless, in view of the present somewhat strained state of detente, the Soviets are likely to be cool, but correct, in Geneva and rigidly legalistic in pursuing an agreement.

The November summit set ten-year ceilings on the number of strategic delivery vehicles permitted each side (2,400) and on the portion of the missile force equipped with multiple, independently targetable re-entry vehicles (1,320). These limits will form the backbone of a treaty that could be ready for signing at the US-Soviet summit later this year. For that schedule to be met, the SALT negotiators must agree on a number of difficult issues, including:

- Which weapons systems will count toward the totals, and which will be excluded from limitation under the treaty.
- What mutual restrictions and interpretations will be necessary to ensure verifiability of compliance with the terms of the treaty.

There is ample opportunity and precedent for serious, even insurmountable, differences on each of these items should the Soviets have second thoughts about their policy toward the US.

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Thus far, despite the collapse of the 1972 trade agreement and serious differences with the US on the Middle East, there is no evidence that Moscow has qualms about the Vladivostok accords. On the contrary, the Soviets have recently re-emphasized their initial, strongly positive public assessments, apparently to offset the negative effect on detente of US-Soviet friction elsewhere.

Moscow has particularly stressed the significance of US recognition of Soviet strategic parity, occasionally reassuring domestic skeptics that the Vladivostok agreements will not lead to unilateral disarmament by the Soviet Union. In addition, the Soviet media have asserted that any follow-on negotiations on reductions of strategic arms would have to take into account the existence of other nuclear powers. There have been no signs, however, that Moscow intends to reintroduce at this session the issues of third-country nuclear powers, US forward-based systems, or so-called "geographic factors" which it decided not to press at the November summit.

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East Germany-West Germany: Who
Is a Citizen of What?

Conflicting East and West German views of German citizenship have led Pankow to lodge a formal protest against alleged "West German interference" in East German efforts to establish consular relations with third countries.

The controversy was triggered by Austrian willingness, over West German objections, to recognize separate East German citizenship in an impending consular convention.

For Bonn, the citizenship issue is closely tied to its hopes for eventual reunification--hopes that Pankow would like to quash. Bonn recognizes the GDR, but denies the existence of separate East German citizenship on the grounds that there are two German states within one German nation.

The problem could be politically explosive in West Germany. Bonn and Pankow agree to disagree on citizenship and a host of similar "judicial" issues. Now, however, Pankow threatens to outflank Bonn by forcing its conventional view of citizenship on neutral and Western countries, including the US, the UK, and France, which will be negotiating consular agreements.

Although Vienna has rejected Bonn's criticism and has pointed out the illogic of recognizing a state without recognizing its citizens, it has also indicated that the convention would not deter the West German embassy from representing anyone who says he is a West German citizen. French officials have showed a willingness to exchange memoranda with Bonn in which the French would guarantee West

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German consular officers access to any "German" who desired to see them, but they have also warned that the East German consul would have to be notified in cases involving East German citizens.

The East Germans may take comfort from the statement of Finnish Foreign Minister Karjalainen, who says the consular agreement that his country is negotiating with Pankow is an exclusively bilateral concern. Karjalainen firmly stated that he has no intention of discussing the issue with West German Foreign Minister Genscher, who was expected in Helsinki shortly.

The failure of third countries to support Bonn's position could provide the Christian Democratic opposition a significant new cudgel with which to belabor the Schmidt government. Several West German state elections loom this year. Schmidt could also find it politically impossible to begin the long-awaited talks with East Germany on a range of practical improvements in relations.

A resolution of West German - Austrian differences on citizenship at this point apparently would be difficult. The press and public opinion in both countries have been sensitized to the problem, and Kreisky has committed himself publicly to the Austrian position. Bonn is toying with the idea of exchanging private letters with Vienna acknowledging Bonn's position.

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Tass reports today's pledge by President Ford that the policy of detente with the USSR would be "continued, widened, and deepened." [REDACTED]

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Pravda article pegged to the 51st anniversary of Lenin's death hails collective leadership as the CPSU's great strength. [REDACTED]

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State Department informs the US embassy in Prague that it has decided to postpone the opening of the US consulate at Bratislava until FY 1976. [REDACTED]

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Soviet Ambassador to Laos Vdovin informs the US that the USSR has agreed to undertake several minor construction projects in the Pathet Lao zone. [REDACTED]

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Polish Foreign Minister Olszowski begins an overnight, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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Politburo member Shelepin confers with exiled Chilean labor leader Figueroa in Moscow. [REDACTED]

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Deputy Premier I. Novikov arrives in North Korea for talks on bilateral economic relations. [REDACTED]

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Mongolian party delegation leaves Moscow for home after meeting with CPSU secretary Katushev. [REDACTED]

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President Podgorny confers the Order of Lenin on the two top officials of the Indian Communist Party in ceremonies at the Kremlin. [REDACTED]

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January 22

USSR formally protests January 19th shooting incident at the Soviet UN mission in New York; the protest note is broadcast verbatim and published in full in all of the principal newspapers. [REDACTED]

Politburo member Kirilenko addresses a well-publicized meeting of Soviet mass media personnel on "how to disseminate information on the decisions of the December plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU." [REDACTED]

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USSR and Yugoslavia sign in Belgrade their bilateral trade protocol for 1975. [REDACTED]

Yugoslav President Tito confers with visiting Indian Foreign Minister Chavan at his Brioni Island retreat. [REDACTED]

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West Germany and Czechoslovakia sign a cooperation treaty, and FRG Foreign Minister Genscher announces that he will make an official visit to Czechoslovakia soon. [REDACTED]

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Admiral Alekseyev arrives in Mexico for consultations on Law of the Sea matters. [REDACTED]

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Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Sushkov arrives in Japan for final-stage negotiations on bilateral development of the natural gas deposits off Sakhalin Island. [REDACTED]

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January 23

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Cuban Deputy Premier Castilla concludes his official visit to the USSR; today he met with Deputy Premier Kirillin and Politburo candidate-member Demichev. [REDACTED]

25X1

CEMA Executive Committee concludes a three-day meeting in Moscow, its 70th session. [REDACTED]

25X1

Czechoslovak party chief Husak concludes a four-day, official visit to Bulgaria. [REDACTED]

25X1

Indian Foreign Minister Chavan completes a five-day, official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

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Lebanese President Franjiyah confers with Soviet Ambassador Soldatov, who allegedly conveys a USSR offer to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

supply Lebanon with three missile networks. [REDACTED]

25X1

GDR formally protests to the FRG over latter's alleged efforts to interfere in East German relations with third countries. [REDACTED]

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January 24

Polish party secretary Felok completes a two-day, official visit to Moscow for talks on "current international problems" and bilateral party cooperation. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Politburo member Kirilenko and party secretary Katushev confer with visiting Cuban Deputy Premier Rodriguez. [REDACTED]

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January 25

Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi confers with Soviet Ambassador Polyakov in Cairo; Fahmi subsequently announces that Foreign Minister Gromyko will arrive in Egypt on February 3 for a three-day, official visit. [REDACTED]

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USSR and Cuba sign a five-year technological cooperation agreement in Moscow. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Al-Ahram commentary reports Soviet shipments of new arms to Egypt have not commenced because President Sadat has refused to call for an immediate resumption of Geneva peace conference and to accept the return of Soviet military advisers; this is the first such report in the Egyptian media. [REDACTED]

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USSR announces the 1974 economic plan results for industry (8% growth rate) and agriculture (slippage). [REDACTED]

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January 26

East German Deputy Premier Mittag begins an eight-day, official visit to Japan. [REDACTED]

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Romanian Deputy Premier Radulescu begins an official visit to China. [REDACTED]

25X1

Visiting Soviet Politburo candidate-member Rashidov reviews the military parade in New Delhi marking the 25th anniversary of the Indian republic. [REDACTED]

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January 27

Romanian Premier Manescu begins a six-day, official visit to Syria. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic flies to Strasbourg to address the Council of Europe. [REDACTED]

25X1

Politburo member Shelepin arrives in East Germany for an extraordinary session of the World Federation of Trade Unions. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

East German Politburo member Axen and Foreign Minister Fischer, on an official visit to the USSR, are received by Gromyko.

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Chnoupek begins a five-day, official visit to Finland. [REDACTED]

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Albania's legislature, the People's Assembly, convenes. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet MBFR negotiator Khlestov goes to Vienna for resumption of the East-West talks. [REDACTED]

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January 28 SALT's standing consultative commission convenes. [REDACTED]

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FUTURE EVENTS

January 29 Warsaw Pact deputy foreign ministers expected to convene in Moscow. [REDACTED]

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January 30 Soviet economic delegation to arrive in Pakistan. [REDACTED]

25X1

January 31 Politburo member Shelepin to commence an official visit to West Germany. [REDACTED]

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SALT to resume in Geneva. [REDACTED]

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Late January Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladenov to make an official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

Czechoslovak Premier Strougal to make an official visit to Romania. [REDACTED]

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Early February US and USSR likely to resume in Moscow their talks on handling peaceful nuclear explosion devices in a threshold test ban treaty. [REDACTED]

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Finnish Foreign Minister Karjalainen to make an official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

Icelandic Foreign Minister Agustsson to make an official visit to the USSR; he has an appointment with Foreign Minister Gromyko on February 5. [REDACTED]

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February 4 Representatives of the EC Commission to begin three days of talks in Moscow with CEMA officials. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 7 New Zealand Prime Minister Rowling to depart on an extended trip that will include visits to Romania and Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

UN Secretary General Waldheim to commence a three-day, official visit to East Germany. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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February 12 Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Parsky to commence a five-day, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

February 13 UK Prime Minister Wilson and Foreign Secretary Callaghan to begin a six-day, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

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Mid-February Polish Foreign Minister Olszowski
to make official visit to Hungary.

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February 24 US and USSR to resume in Washington
their talks on an agreement to curb
efforts to modify the environment to
gain military advantages.

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Late February French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues
expected to make an official visit
to Poland.

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Early March French parliamentary delegation led
by former Foreign Minister Couve de
Murville to visit the USSR.

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March 4 Twenty-six nation Geneva disarmament
conference, co-chaired by the US and
the USSR, expected to convene.

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March 11 Romanian chief of staff Coman to begin
a nine-day, official visit to the US,
the first by such a high-ranking officer
from a Warsaw Pact member-state.

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March Former West German Chancellor Brandt
likely to visit the USSR.

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Late March French Prime Minister Chirac to make
an official visit to the USSR.

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